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BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL DURING 1915

The following is an abstract of the report presented by Secretary Lovejoy at the Annual Meeting of the Association.

The business of the Council has been conducted by correspondence except for one meeting held at Washington, December 31.

The principal items of business were as follows:

Secretaryship.—No secretary having been elected at the previous annual meeting, the Council, in January, elected Professor Lovejoy of the Johns Hopkins University.

Council Membership.—Vacancies in the Council were filled by the election of Professors Hough, University of Virginia; Dealey, Brown University; Jastrow, University of Pennsylvania; Haney, University of Texas; Taber, Clark University; Marx, Stanford University; Fenneman, University of Cincinnati.

Lengths of terms of members of the Council were determined by lot, as provided by the provisional constitution. (See BULLETIN, Vol. II, No. 1.)

Executive Committee.—The president, by authorization of the Council during the year, appointed Professors Capps (chairman), Harrison, Hobbs, Lovejoy, Marx, Munro, Wigmore, as an Executive Committee "with power to make nominations for the committees of the Association, to prepare questions for submission to the Council, to make recommendations upon these questions, and to take provisional action in urgent cases, subject to confirmation by the Council."

Committees.—The three committees authorized at the New York meeting were appointed by the Council during the year on nomination from the Executive Committee. (See BULLETIN, Vol. II, No. 1.)

Academic Freedom Investigations.—The Council has, during the year, voted to authorize the Committee on Academic Freedom and Academic Tenure to conduct investigations into certain incidents occurring at the University of Utah,

the University of Montana, the University of Colorado, and the University of Pennsylvania; to publish its reports on these investigations; and to incur such expense as might be necessary for the conduct of the investigations and the printing of the reports.

Place of Annual Meeting.—In July the Council received from the president of the Ohio State University, from the Ohio member of the Council, and from the local members of the Association, a cordial invitation for the holding of the annual meeting of the Association at Columbus, as guests of the Ohio State University. The Council, understanding that the American Association for the Advancement of Science was to meet in the same city, and that the American Economic Association, the American Political Science Association, and the American Sociological Society, were to meet nearby, voted to accept this invitation. A subsequent change of plan by the organizations representing political science, economics, and sociology, led the president to direct, at the request of a member, that the Council be given a second opportunity to vote on the question of the place of meeting, in view of the fact that an important part of the business of the meeting was to be the presentation and discussion of the report of a committee originally constituted jointly by this Association and the three organizations mentioned. The result of the second vote was that the Council declined, with much regret, the invitation of the Ohio State University, and selected Washington, D. C., as the place for the annual meeting, and December 31, 1915, to January 1, 1916, as the date.

Invitations to Members of Other Societies for Annual Meeting.—The Executive Committee, having been given authority by the Council to make arrangements for the annual meeting, voted that an invitation be extended to the members of the American Economic Association, the American Political Science Association, and the American Sociological Society, to attend the session of the annual meeting at which the report of the Committee on Academic Freedom and Academic

Tenure was to be presented. These invitations were accordingly communicated to those bodies by the chairman of the committee.

Entertainment of Annual Meetings.—It was voted “to request institutions with which the Association may meet not to furnish special entertainment, such as formal dinners and receptions, in connection with its meetings.”

Secretary's Office.—At the meeting of December 31, 1915, the Council voted “to recommend to the Association that \$500 be appropriated to the Secretary next to be elected, for the employment of an assistant, this sum not to be considered as covering clerical expenses.”

Traveling Expenses of Committees.—At the same meeting it was voted “to recommend that the Council be authorized to refer the question of payment of traveling expenses of members of committees to its Executive Committee, or to a special committee, appointed by the Council for 1916, this to be understood to authorize the Council to appropriate for this purpose such sums as may be recommended by this committee.”

Election of Officers by Ballot.—It was at the same meeting voted “that the principle of election of officers by ballot is approved by the Council, and it is recommended that the new Council be authorized to draft and submit an amendment to the constitution embodying this principle.”

Organization of Local Chapters.—It was voted “that a communication from Professor Tyler of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, relating to the organization of local societies, be laid before the annual meeting, and that the following plan, contained therein, be recommended for adoption by the Association:”

“In any institution or geographical district where there are ten or more members of the Association, any member, or members, may call a meeting of members in that district or institution for informal discussion of plans for provisional organization as a local group or section. This discussion will naturally deal with the possible advantages of such organ-

ization, with the question of frequency, place, and character of meetings, and with possible relations to the general Association. For the present such relations will be informal and will involve no right to special representation at annual meetings. If organization is desired, it will be sufficient to have a local secretary, a small committee on program, and a few by-laws, approved by the Council. No action is to be taken, and nothing published, with the name of the Association.

"If this plan be approved, initiative may be taken by members of the Council in different parts of the country, using lists of members provided by the secretary, and avoiding geographical overlapping.

"Experience under such a plan should serve as the best basis for a more definite future policy."

Amendments to the Constitution.—The Council resolved:

That it does not regard as practicable the provisions of the proposed amendment* to Article V, § 3 of the Constitution.

That the proposed amendment† to Article V, § 5, is, in the Council's opinion, impracticable.

That the proposed amendment‡ to Article V, § 7, be recommended for adoption as a by-law.

* Providing for a meeting of the Council during the year.

† Providing for a budget.

‡ Published in BULLETIN, Vol. II, No. 1, page 22.